

REMARKS

The Office Action dated May 3, 2006, has been received and carefully noted. The above amendments to the specification and claims, and the following remarks, are submitted as a full and complete response thereto.

Claims 1-12, 14-15, and 17-18 have been amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention. Claim 19 has been added. No new matter has been added, and no new issues are raised which require further consideration and/or search. Claims 1-19 are submitted for consideration.

The drawings were objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they include reference characters not mentioned in the description. The specification has been amended to overcome this objection. Hence, Applicant requests that the objection be withdrawn.

Claims 1-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by International Publication Number WO 02/073933 to Hovell. The rejection is traversed as being based on a reference that neither teaches nor suggests the novel combination of features clearly recited in independent claims 1, 8 and 10 and the dependent claims thereon, in addition to newly added claim 19.

Claim 1, upon which claims 2-7 depend, recites a network name resolving element for performing name resolving in a network system which includes a first network using a first network protocol and a second network using a second network protocol. The

network element includes a name resolving unit configured to perform name resolving and a first connection unit configured to provide a direct connection to the first network. The network element also includes a second connection unit configured to provide a direct connection to the second network and an address translation unit configured to perform address translation between the first network and the second network. The name resolving unit and the address translation unit are configured to co-operate in order to translate addresses upon performing name resolving.

Claim 8, upon which claim 9 depends, recites a system including a network name resolving element and at least two network address translating elements. The network name resolving element is for performing name resolving in a network system which includes a first network using a first network protocol and a second network using a second network protocol. The network name resolving element includes a name resolving unit configured to perform name resolving and a first connection unit configured to provide a direct connection to the first network. The network name resolving element also includes a second connection unit configured to provide a direct connection to the second network and an address translation unit configured to perform address translation between the first network and the second network. The name resolving unit and the address translation unit are configured to co-operate in order to translate addresses upon performing name resolving. The address translation unit is configured to select a particular network address translating element to be used for a connection between a first host in the first network and a second host in the second

network and the address translation unit is configured to add network address translating element information to the resolved address. The address translation unit is configured to select a network address translating element based on information regarding the load on the network address translating element. The network address translating elements are configured to send load information to the network element.

Claim 10, upon which claims 11-18 depend, recites a method for resolving names in a network system which includes a first network using a first network protocol and a second network using a second network protocol. The method includes processing a name resolve request to obtain an address and performing address translation between the first and the second network. The name resolve request processing and the address translation are performed in a dedicated network name resolving element for performing name resolving located in the first network and having direct connections to the first network and to the second network.

As outlined below, Applicant submits that the cited reference of Hovell does not teach or suggest the elements of any of the presently pending claims.

Hovell discloses a network address translation (NAT) apparatus, which is enhanced with respect to the requirements between IPv4 and IPv6 networks. The apparatus assigns an alias to a target network device in the first network, wherein the alias is compatible with the protocol of the second network. The apparatus translates the assigned alias to an address for the target network device, wherein the translated address

is compatible with the communication protocol of the first network. See at least page 2, lines 7 to 24 and the Abstract of Hovell.

Applicant submits that Hovell simply does not teach or suggest each element recited in any of the presently pending claims. Each of independent claims 1, 8 and 10, recites, in part, a network name resolving element being for performing name resolving in a network system which includes a first network using a first network protocol and a second network using a second network protocol, the network name resolving element includes a name resolving unit configured to perform name resolving. The Office Action seems to allege that the unit for assigning an alias, as disclosed in Hovell, is equivalent with the name resolving unit, as recited in the presently pending claims. However, Applicant submits that as is known to one of ordinary skill in the art, the term "name resolving" used in the presently pending claims clearly indicates that this name resolving unit does not simply assign an address, but resolves the name in order to obtain an address. Specifically, the network element recited in claims 1, 8 and 10 is an enhanced name resolving element, for example, an enhanced Domain Name Server.

In contrast, the network element defined in Hovell is an enhanced network address translation element, which does not have the ability to perform name resolving on its own. Specifically, as described on pages 7 and 8 in connection with Fig. 4 of Hovell, DNS requests are processed such that the requests are translated using the NAT and that the DNS servers 104 and 106 respectively located in the two networks are accessed. Hence, the DNS requests in Hovell are processed in a manner similar to that described in

the background section of the present application, where in Hovell an alias is assigned in order to simplify the translation process. Thus, Applicant submits that Hovell is directed to an improvement on the network address translation functionality. Hovel does not teach or suggest providing a DNS with network address translation functionality and direct connections to both networks, as recited in the presently pending claims. Based on the arguments presented above, Applicant respectfully asserts that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) should be withdrawn because Hovell fails to teach or suggest each feature of claims 1, 8 and 10 and hence, dependent claims 2-7, 9 and 11-18 thereon.

As noted previously, claims 1-19 recite subject matter which is neither disclosed nor suggested in the prior art references cited in the Office Action. It is therefore respectfully requested that all of claims 1-19 be allowed and this application passed to issue.

If for any reason the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact, by telephone, the applicant's undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

In the event this paper is not being timely filed, the applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account 50-2222.

Respectfully submitted,



Arlene P. Neal
Registration No. 43,828

Customer No. 32294
SQUIRE, SANDERS & DEMPSEY LLP
14TH Floor
8000 Towers Crescent Drive
Tysons Corner, Virginia 22182-2700
Telephone: 703-720-7800
Fax: 703-720-7802

APN:kmp

Enclosures: Petition for a Three-Month Extension of Time
Check No. 15333